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University of Alberta

Stroker

by

Mackenzy Albright

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Fine Arts

in

Drawing and Intermedia

Art and Design

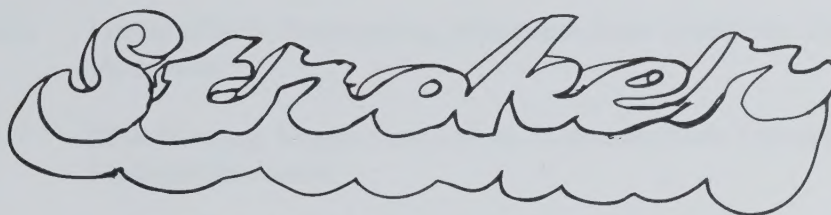
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Winter 2013

Edmonton, Alberta

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MACKENZY ALBRIGHT

Curriculum Vitae


Artist Statement

Bibliography

Image List

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Mackenzy Albright

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Education

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2010-2012 | MFA- Drawing and Intermedia, University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta |
| 2008-2010 | Master of Arts- Printmaking, Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota |
| 2008 | BFA-Painting, Magna Cum Laude, Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota |

Professional Experience

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2013 | Instructor, Drawing and Intermedia 140, University of Alberta |
| 2012 | Instructor, Printmaking Silkscreen 322, University of Alberta |
| 2011-2012 | Teaching Assistant, Drawing and Intermedia 240, University of Alberta
Lab Assistant, Printmaking 322 Silkscreen, University of Alberta |
| 2010-2011 | Teaching Assistant, Printmaking. Art/Des 425 Word and Image University of Alberta |
| 2011 | Director of Printshop and Board Member of Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers |
| 2010-2013 | Instructor, Introduction to Silkscreen. Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers |
| 2009 | Visiting Artist, Southwest State University, Marshall Minnesota |
| 2008-2010 | Instructor of Record, Art 100-Elements and Principles of Art. Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota |
| 2008-2010 | Teaching Assistant, Printmaking-Art 270 Relief/Silkscreen and Art 271 Lithography/Intaglio. Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota |

Solo Exhibitions

- 2012 *Stroker*, FAB Gallery, University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta
- 2010 *denouement*, MA thesis exhibition. Conking Gallery MSU,
Mankato Minnesota
- 2009 *Recent Works*, Radiance Salon Scholarship Exhibition Radiance
Salon, Mankato Minnesota

Group Exhibitions

- 2013 (upcoming) *123 Collaborate!*, Southern Graphics Council
International Conference, Milwaukee Wisconsin
- 2012 *Dirt City/Dream City*, Edmonton Arts Council Public Art Project,
Quarters Distinct, Edmonton Alberta (in collaboration with
Rachelle Bowen)
- Instructors Exhibition*, Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers,
Edmonton Alberta
- Print Resonance*, Musashino University, Tokyo
- Parka Patio*, Latitude 53, Edmonton Alberta
- Easy Street*, The Duchess, Edmonton Alberta
- Beaver Fever*, 410 Project, Mankato Minnesota
- 2011 *Not So Easy Street*, Fiftyfifty Arts Collective, Victoria British
Columbia
- Boston Printmakers: North American Print Biennial 2011*
Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham Massachusetts Juried by
Jim Dine
- Innovation: Technics of a Mind Body Performance*, Little Gallery,
University of Calgary, Calgary Alberta
- Corpus 2*, Rutherford Library University of Alberta, Edmonton
Alberta

Mommy Dearest: Public Displays of Domestic Disputes, The 410 Project Gallery, Mankato Minnesota (two person collaborative installation)

Foray, Snap Gallery, Edmonton Alberta

In the Doghouse for letting the Cat out of the Bag, The 410 Project Gallery, Mankato Minnesota

2010 *Ran Art*. Tarnish and Gold Gallery, Minneapolis Minnesota

Flippin' Birds. The 410 Project Gallery, Mankato Minnesota

410 Juried Show. The 410 Project Gallery, Mankato Minnesota

Foot in the Door. Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis Minnesota

Inspiration, Juried Exhibition Raydiance Salon Gallery. Mankato Minnesota

2009 *MAPC Juried Members Exhibition*. Kenneth P. McCutchan Art Center. Pace Galleries, The University of Southern Indiana, Indiana

6th Anniversary Portfolio Exchange Exhibition. Saltgrass Printmakers, Salt Lake City Utah

Jones, Indiana. CSU Student Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato MN

Manifestations of Communication, Conkling Gallery Minnesota State University Mankato Minnesota

Impact 2. Gallery 212. Northern State University, Aberdeen South Dakota

The Shank Show The 410 Project Gallery, Mankato Minnesota

Spring Student Art League Juried Exhibition, CSU Student Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota(Best in Show)

All Inked Up, Carnegie Art Center, Mankato Minnesota

2008 *Works On Paper Exhibition*, CSU Student Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

Untitled Senior Exhibition, Conkling Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

Drawing On the Wall: Sol Lewitt's Legacy CSU Student Gallery group Installation Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

2007 *Fall Student Art League Juried Exhibition*, Conkling Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

Creative License 4th Annual 12"x12" Exhibition. Carnegie Art Center, Mankato Minnesota

2006 *Spring Student Art League Juried Exhibition*, Conkling Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

2005 *Prairie Lakes Juried Show*, Carnegie Art Center, Mankato Minnesota

Fall Student Art League Juried Exhibition, Conkling Gallery Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

Scholarships, Awards and Grants

2012 Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Travel Award, University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta

2012 Graduate Studies and Research Travel Award, University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta

2010 - 2012 MFA Scholarship University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta

2009 - 2010 Thesis Funding Scholarship. Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

2009 Nadine B. Andreas Graduate Assistantship Scholarship, Minnesota State University. Mankato Minnesota

Best in Show, 2D Student Art League Juried Show, Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

2008 Shining Light Scholarship, Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota

Volunteer Experience

- 2010 - 2012 Visual Arts Student Association VASA, University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
- 2010 - 2011 Society for Northern Alberta Printmakers, Edmonton Alberta
- 2007 - 2010 Vice President '08-'09, President '10 of the Works on Paper Club,
MSU Student Club, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Minnesota
- 2007 - 2009 Gallery Volunteer, Conkling Gallery Minnesota State University
Mankato Minnesota

Donations

- 2012 Schmoozy, Latitude 53, Edmonton, Alberta
- Print Affair, SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta
- Bella Note, MSU Mankato, MN
- 2011 *Munny Maker*, Student Design Association, Foosh, Edmonton
Alberta
- Schmoozy*, Latitude 53, Edmonton Alberta
- Print Affair*, SNAP Gallery, Edmonton Alberta
- Shake Your Money Maker, Foosh, Edmonton Alberta
- Royal Bison*, VASA, Edmonton Alberta
- Gezelleg*, VASA, Telus Center, University of Alberta, Edmonton
Alberta

Memberships

- 2010 - 2013 Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers
- 2012 - 2013 Art Gallery of Alberta
- 2009 - 2013 Southern Graphics Council International Conference
- 2008 - 2009 Mid American Print Council Member

“...on the domestic level our every day lives are now being invaded by machines whose workings we can barely guess at. How many of us could mend a faulty automatic washing machine or waste disposer, let alone a color television set? Even if we can barely tell the difference between and sparking plug and a dipstick, the car is probably the last machine whose basic technology and function we can all understand.”

JG BALLARD, A User's Guide to the Millennium



I bought my first car wrecked. It was a 1988 Ford Mustang GT with a 5.0 litre engine. The rear window had shattered into the back seat of the car and the rear bumper was smashed over and down slightly. During the reconstruction process, my father had a heart attack, which led to a quadruple bi-pass surgery – he smoked too many cigarettes and lived off of steaks. After being released from the hospital we finished fixing the ‘stang’ and took it out to the open roads of the country to see how it was running. After a bit, we reached the longest stretch of straight road in the area. Starting from a dead stop my father pressed the throttle to the floor. Pinned back into the seats by the acceleration, the car soon buried the speedometer needle at 145mph/233KPH where it stops. Then he decided to tell me that he was instructed by his doctor not to drive. Apparently “in the event of a crash, the staples holding his chest together would let loose and his entrails would fly out”. He reassured me that “at this speed we would both die anyways.”

The digital images and video's in this exhibition come from Edmonton's Castrol Raceway. I spent several months recording and observing the act of and the expenditures of drag racing. Through my experience at the track I began to reflect on our everyday relationship to technology and how it is commonly

perceived as divided between organic and inorganic. However, as a drag racer surrenders to the moment of speed, the lines between the body of the car and of the human body of the driver become blurred. *Stroker* is the investigation of this spectacle of speed and of death, as the automobile becomes an example of our human longing to find our place within the natural world.

I use photography and video to parallel the prosthetic language of the automobile. Much as the automobile is an extension of the driver's body, the camera becomes an extension of my own. Through the recording of the lens and redistribution of the image (either printed photograph or projection) the world becomes externalized. In this way, the recordings of excess are in of excess themselves. Speed is integral to the act of expenditure as it creates a proximity to the vulnerability and mortality of either the mechanical or biological body.

In addition to digital media I use sculpture and installation, to further integrate the biological and technological. "Little Tree" air fresheners are enlarged into three-dimensional bodies made of former living trees. The little tree then becomes the symbol of the exhibition through logos and banners. It embodies both life and death, natural and unnatural.

Drag racing constantly utilizes fabrication, construction, reduction, reuse, and restoration to enhance biological and mechanical performance. "Stroking" an engine is to modify it in a way in which the crankshaft is replaced and shorter pistons are installed to increase the stroke of the engine. This modified engine is then referred to as a "Stroker". The increased displacement, torque, and horsepower, increase the speed and acceleration much greater than the un-assisted body could attain. . The outcome of such modifications is the ability to revitalize our everyday experience with technology. I am interested in how the activity of drag racing repurposes the everyday experience of driving as a utility into a self-acknowledging radical expenditure of energy. The pursuit of speed and proximity

to death creates a moment of heightened living in which the outcome is perhaps the repositioning of ourselves within nature.

Bibliography

Ballard, J. G. *Concrete Island*. London: Farrar and Strauss, 1973. Print.

Ballard, JG. *Crash*. N.p.: Panther, 1975. Print.

Barney, Matthew, Nancy Spector, and Neville Wakefield. *Matthew Barney: The Cremaster Cycle*. New York: Guggenheim Museum, 2002. Print.

Bataille, Georges, and Allan Stoekl. *Visions of Excess: Selected Writings, 1927-1939*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 1985. Print.

Dion, Mark, and Alexis Rockman. *Concrete Jungle: a Pop Media Investigation of Death and Survival in Urban Ecosystems*. New York: Juno, 1996. Print.

Fogle, Douglas, Francesco Bonami, and David Moos. *Andy Warhol/Supernova: Stars, Deaths, and Disasters, 1962-1964*. Minneapolis: Walker Art Center, 2005. Print.

Ladd, Brian. *Autophobia: Love and Hate in the Automotive Age*. Chicago: University of Chicago, 2008. Print.

McLuhan, Marshall. *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man*. Cambridge, MA: MIT, 1994. Print.

Richardson, Micheal. *George Bataille*. London: Sage, 1998. Print.

Spector, Nancy, and Richard Prince. *Richard Prince*. New York: Guggenheim Museum, Print.

STROKER DVD IMAGE LIST

albright.01.tif

Stroker

2012

Digital Print on Phototex

40 x 59 inches

albright.02.tif

Smokey and the...

2012

Digital Print on Phototex

27 x 40 inches

albright.03.tif

Chute!

2012

Digital Print on Phototex

27 x 40 inches

albright.04.tif

We are never ever ever getting back together

2012

Digital Print on Phototex

27 x 40 inches

albright.05.tif

Skid

2012

Digital Print on Phototex

80 x 120 inches

albright.06.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

photograph on phototext,

silkscreen on paper, nylon rope

dimensions variable

albright.07.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

photograph on phototext,

silkscreen on paper, nylon rope

dimensions variable

albright.08.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

photograph on phototext,

silkscreen on paper, nylon rope

dimensions variable

albright.09.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

photograph on phototext,

silkscreen on paper, nylon rope

dimensions variable

albright.10.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

photograph on phototext,

silkscreen on paper, nylon rope

dimensions variable

albright.11.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,

nylon rope, sound, little tree air

fresheners, smell (new car

scent), video, aluminum bleachers

dimensions variable

albright.12.tif

Stroker installation shot

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,

nylon rope, sound, little tree air

fresheners, smell (new car

scent), video, aluminum bleachers

dimensions variable

albright.13.tif*Stroker installation shot*

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,
nylon rope, sound, little tree air
fresheners, smell (new car scent),
video, aluminum bleachers
dimensions variable

albright.14.tif*Stroker installation shot*

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,
nylon rope, sound, little tree air
fresheners, smell (new car
scent), video, aluminum bleachers
dimensions variable

albright.15.tif*Stroker installation shot*

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,
nylon rope, sound, little tree air
fresheners, smell (new car
scent), video, aluminum bleachers
dimensions variable

albright.16.tif*Stroker installation shot*

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,
nylon rope, sound, little tree air
fresheners, smell (new car
scent), video, aluminum bleachers
dimensions variable

albright.17.tif*Stroker installation shot*

2012

plywood, silkscreen on paper,
nylon rope, sound, little tree air
fresheners, smell (new car
scent), video, aluminum bleachers
dimensions variable

albright.18.tif*Stroker banners on the building
exterior*

2012

silkscreen on paper, rope
dimensions variable

albright.19.tif*Stroker Vinyl Wall*

2012

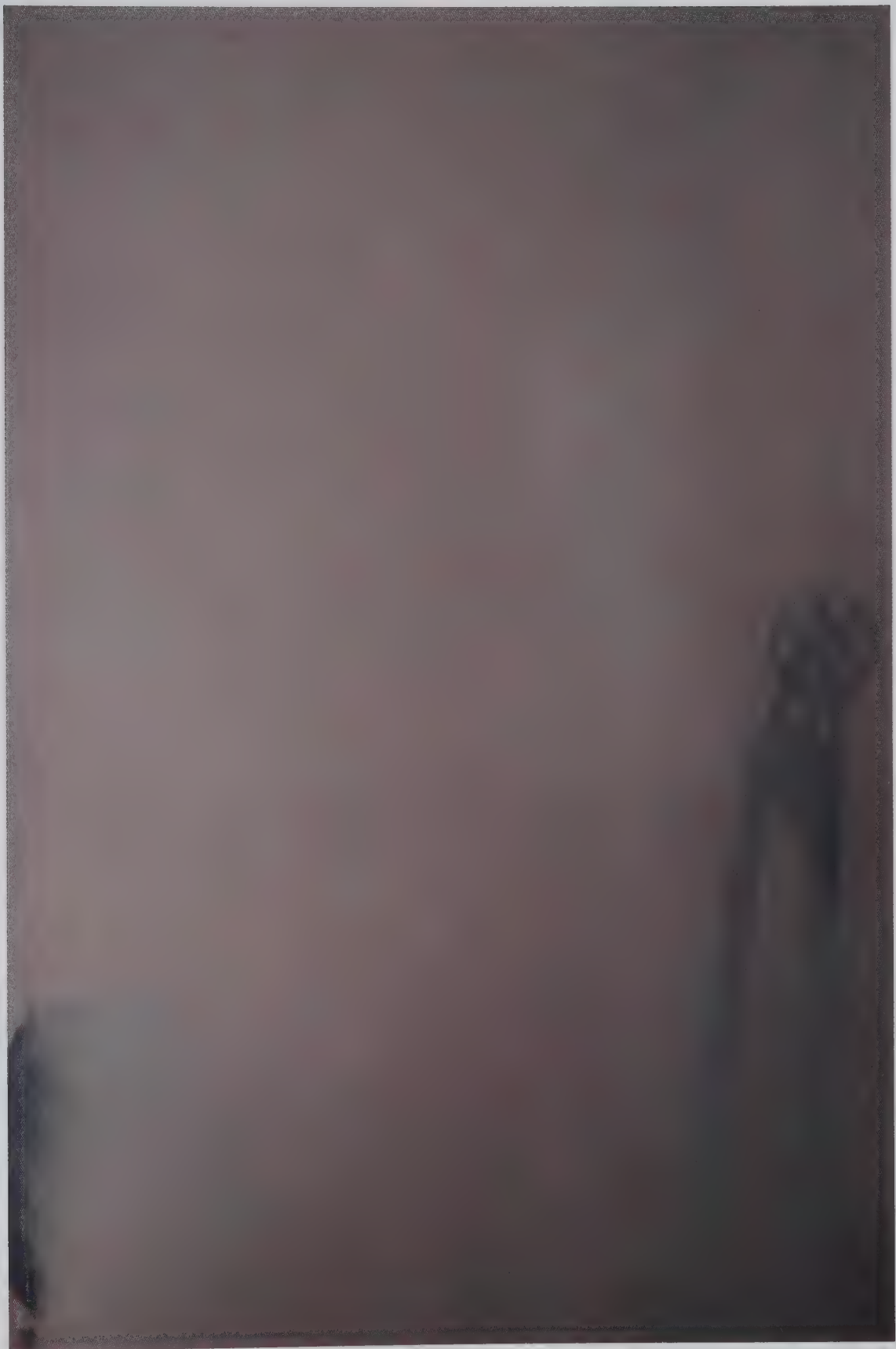
Vinyl, silkscreen on paper, rope
dimensions variable

albright.20.tif*Detail of Banner with Standard
Color Chart*

2012

silkscreen on paper, Macbeth
Standard Color Chart
15x22





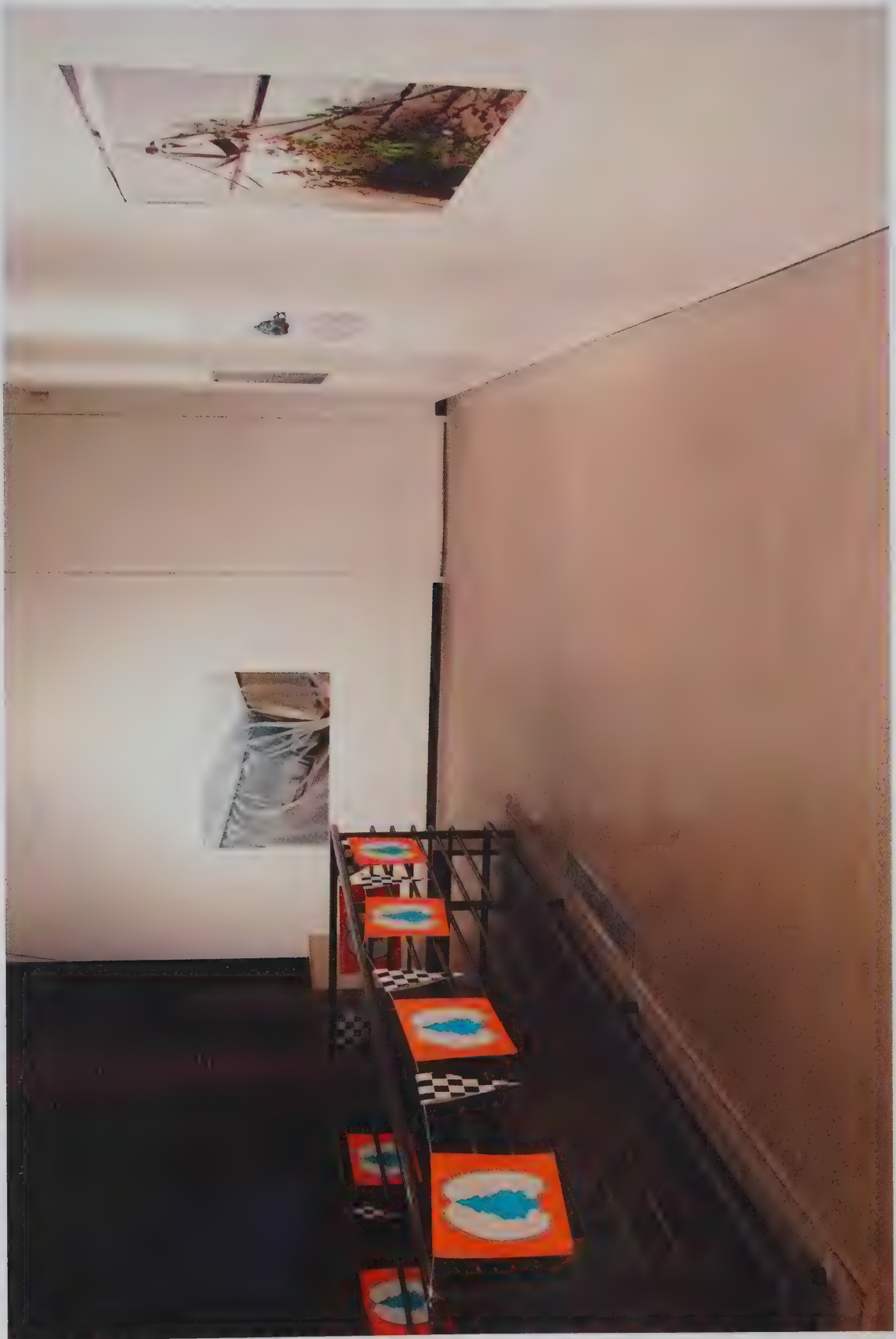




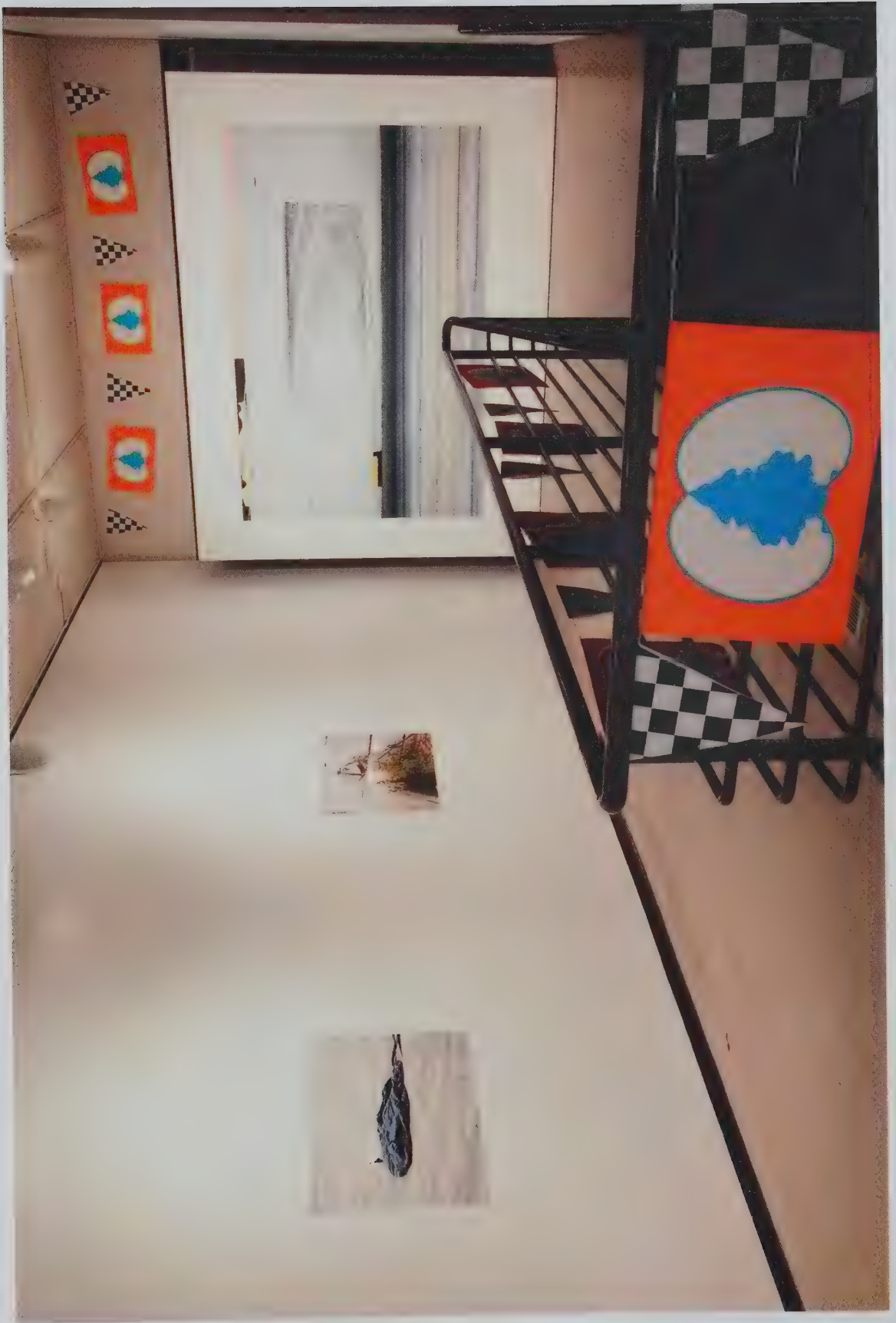














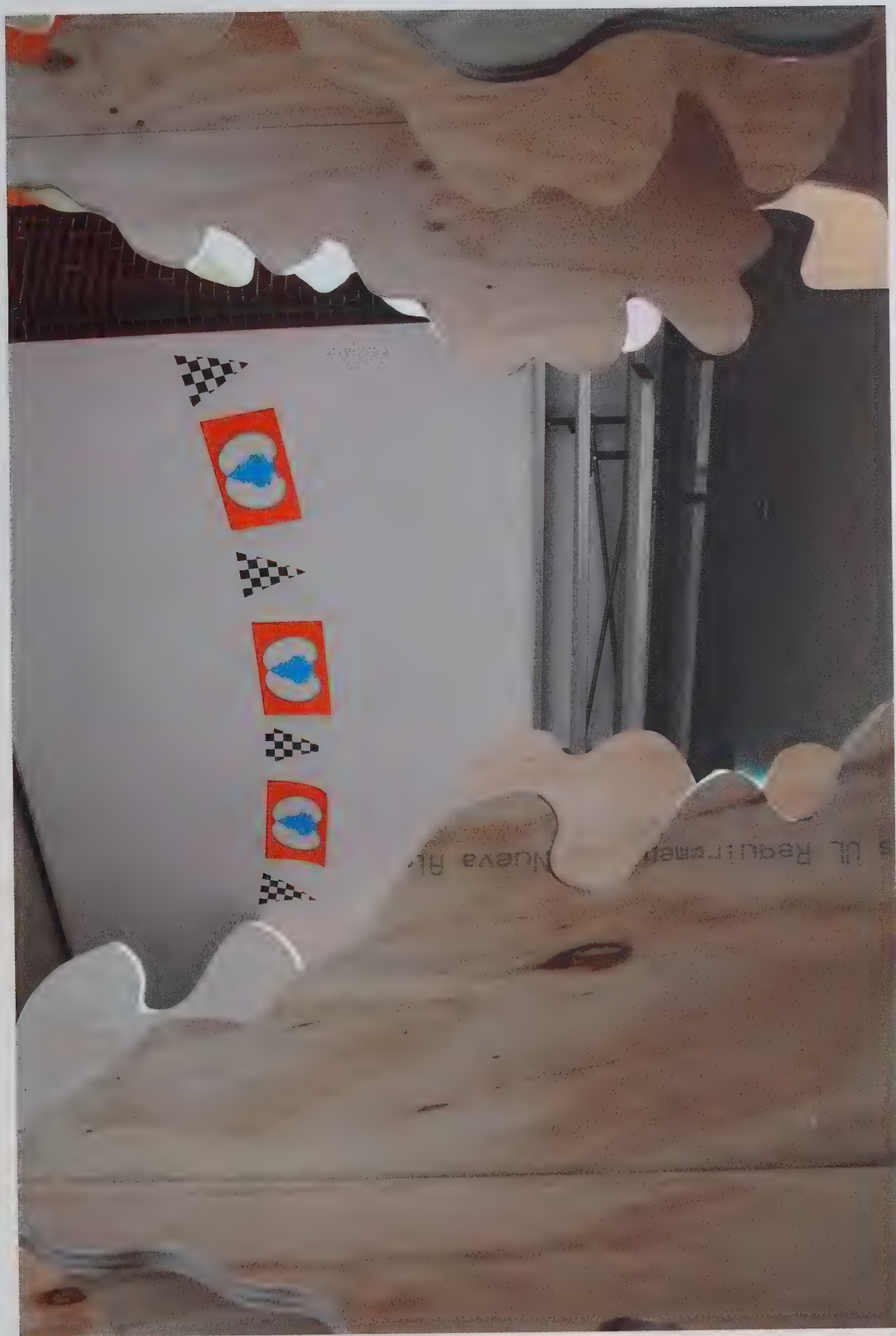










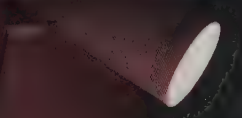
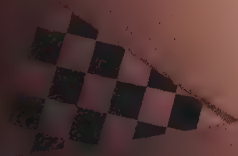
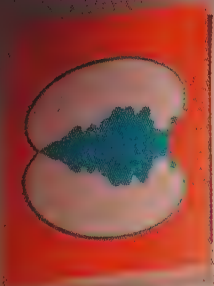




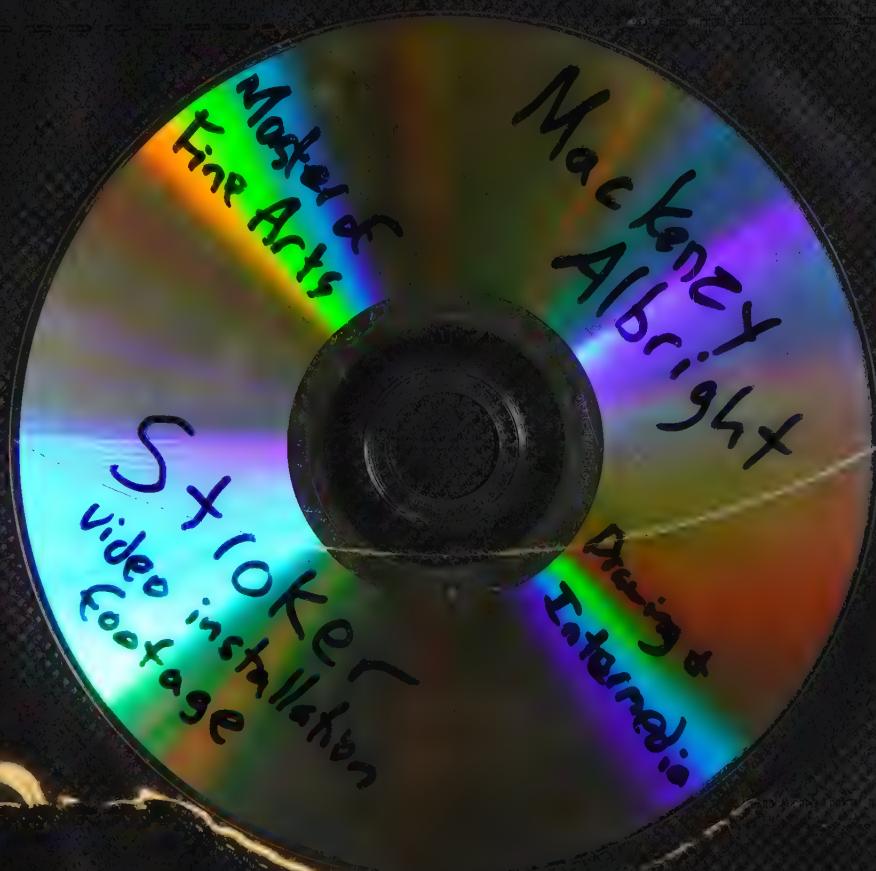
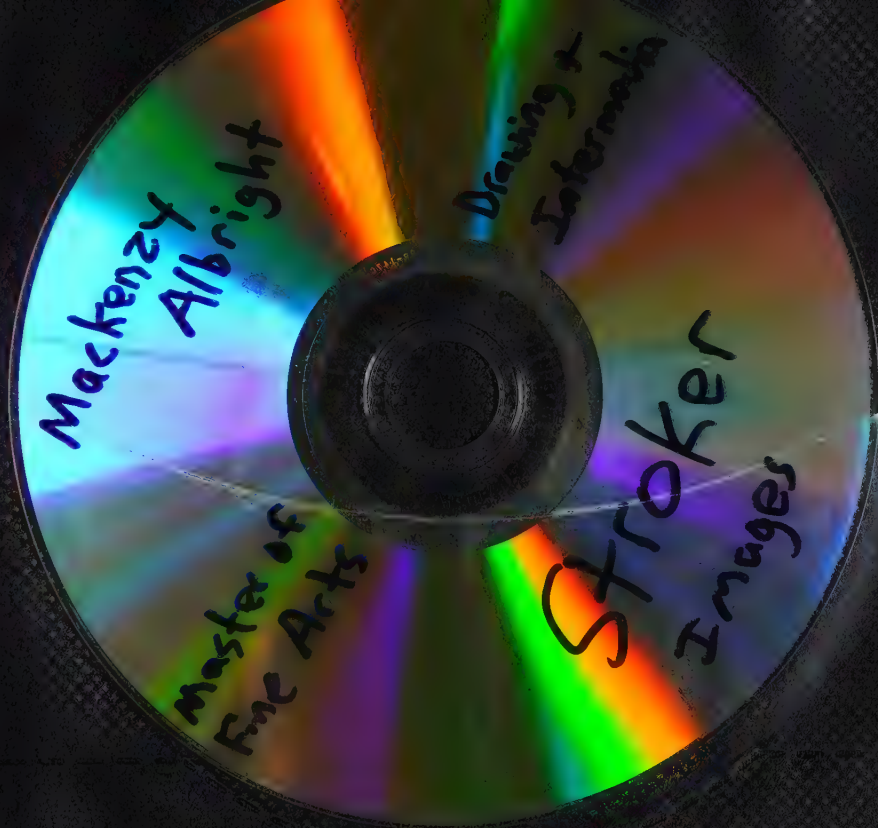
Stroker

MACKENZY ALBRIGHT

nika blasser







www.mackenzyalbright.com

11-23 December 2012 & 3-12 January 2013

Opening reception: Thursday, December 13, 2013, 7:00-10:00

Stroker

MACKENZY ALBRIGHT

This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Drawing and Intermedia

1-1 Fine Arts Building | 89 Avenue & 112 Street
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Canada T6G 2C9

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday 10 am-5 pm, Saturday 2-5 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday & statutory holidays



